

**MERCER COUNTY REPORT
OF
ENDANGERED, THREATENED, AND SPECIAL CONCERN
PLANTS, ANIMALS, AND NATURAL COMMUNITIES
OF
KENTUCKY**

**KENTUCKY STATE NATURE
PRESERVES COMMISSION
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www.naturepreserves.ky.gov

Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission

Key for County List Report

Within a county, elements are arranged first by taxonomic complexity (plants first, natural communities last), and second by scientific name. A key to status, ranks, and count data fields follows.

STATUS

KSNPC: Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission status:

N or blank = none E = endangered T = threatened S = special concern H = historic X = extirpated

USESA: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service status:

blank = none C = candidate LT = listed as threatened LE = listed as endangered

SOMC = Species of Management Concern

RANKS

GRANK: Estimate of element abundance on a global scale:

G1 = Critically imperiled

GU = Unrankable

G2 = Imperiled

G#? = Inexact rank (e.g. G2?)

G3 = Vulnerable

G#Q = Questionable taxonomy

G4 = Apparently secure

G#T# = Intraspecific taxa (Subspecies and variety abundances are coded with a 'T' suffix; the 'G' portion of the rank then refers to the entire species)

G5 = Secure

GH = Historic, possibly extinct

GNR = Unranked

GX = Presumed extinct

GNA = Not applicable

SRANK: Estimate of element abundance in Kentucky:

S1 = Critically imperiled

SU = Unrankable

S2 = Imperiled

S#? = Inexact rank (e.g. G2?)

S3 = Vulnerable

S#Q = Questionable taxonomy

S4 = Apparently secure

S#T# = Intraspecific taxa

S5 = Secure

SNR = Unranked

SH = Historic, possibly extirpated

SNA = Not applicable

SX = Presumed extirpated

Migratory species may have separate ranks for different population segments (e.g. S1B, S2N, S4M):

S#B = Rank of breeding population

S#N = Rank of non-breeding population

S#M = Rank of transient population

COUNT DATA FIELDS

OF OCCURRENCES: Number of occurrences of a particular element from a county. Column headings are as follows:

E - currently reported from the county

H - reported from the county but not seen for at least 20 years

F - reported from county & cannot be relocated but for which further inventory is needed

X - known to be extirpated from the county

U - reported from a county but cannot be mapped to a quadrangle or exact location.

The data from which the county report is generated is continually updated. The date on which the report was created is in the report footer. Contact KSNPC for a current copy of the report.

Please note that the quantity and quality of data collected by the Kentucky Natural Heritage Program are dependent on the research and observations of many individuals and organizations. In most cases, this information is not the result of comprehensive or site-specific field surveys; many natural areas in Kentucky have never been thoroughly surveyed, and new species of plants and animals are still being discovered. For these reasons, the Kentucky Natural Heritage Program cannot provide a definitive statement on the presence, absence, or condition of biological elements in any part of Kentucky. Heritage reports summarize the existing information known to the Kentucky Natural Heritage Program at the time of the request regarding the biological elements or locations in question. They should never be regarded as final statements on the elements or areas being considered, nor should they be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments.

KSNPC appreciates the submission of any endangered species data for Kentucky from field observations. For information on data reporting or other data services provided by KSNPC, please contact the Data Manager at:

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County	Taxonomic Group	Scientific name	Common name	Statuses	Ranks	# of Occurrences				
						E	H	F	X	U
	Habitat									
Mercer	Vascular Plants	<i>Arabis hirsuta</i>	Western Hairy Rockcress	T /	G5 / S1S2	1	0	0	0	0
Mercer	Vascular Plants	<i>Elymus svensonii</i>	Svenson's Wildrye	S / SOMC	G3 / S3	4	0	0	0	0
	XERIC ROCKY OPEN OR WOODED BLUFFS ALONG KY AND DIX RIVERS AND TRIBUTARIES.									
Mercer	Vascular Plants	<i>Lesquerella globosa</i>	Globe Bladderpod	E / C	G2 / S1	0	1	0	0	0
	Calcareous rocks and barrens, wooded cliff edges.									
Mercer	Vascular Plants	<i>Lonicera prolifera</i>	Grape Honeysuckle	E /	G5 / S1	1	0	0	0	0
	Rocky woods and banks.									
Mercer	Vascular Plants	<i>Phlox bifida ssp. stellaria</i>	Starry-cleft Phlox	E / SOMC	G5?T3 / S1	1	0	0	0	0
	Dry cliffs, bluffs, sandhills, dunes, dry sandy soil and rock ledges, cedar glades.									
Mercer	Vascular Plants	<i>Sagina fontinalis</i>	Water Stitchwort	T /	G3 / S2	2	0	0	0	0
	On permanently wet limestone cliffs or ledges above or along streams in full sun or light shade.									
Mercer	Vascular Plants	<i>Schizachne purpurascens</i>	Purple Oat	T /	G5 / S2	3	0	1	0	0
	Dry outcrops along limestone cliffines along large streams and rivers.									
Mercer	Vascular Plants	<i>Trillium nivale</i>	Snow Trillium	E /	G4 / S1	1	0	0	0	0
	Mesophytic forests with limestone derived soils, slopes associated with large river systems.									
Mercer	Vascular Plants	<i>Viburnum molle</i>	Softleaf Arrowwood	T /	G5 / S3?	1	0	0	0	0
	Rocky dry to somewhat dry woods usually at about mid-slope.									
Mercer	Freshwater Mussels	<i>Cyprogenia stegaria</i>	Fanshell	E / LE	G1 / S1	0	0	0	1	0
	MEDIUM TO LARGE STREAMS AND RIVERS WITH MODERATE TO STRONG CURRENT IN COARSE SAND AND GRAVEL AND DEPTH RANGING FROM SHALLOW TO DEEP (GOODRICH AND VAN DER SCHALIE 1944, NEEL AND ALLEN 1964, PARMALEE 1967, JOHNSON 1980, GORDON AND LAYZER 1989).									
Mercer	Freshwater Mussels	<i>Epioblasma torulosa rangiana</i>	Northern Riffleshell	E / LE	G2T2 / S1	0	0	0	1	0
	RIFFLES OR SHOALS WITH CURRENT AND SUBSTRATE OF SAND AND/OR GRAVEL IN SMALL TO MODERATE-SIZE RIVERS (CLARKE 1981, WATTERS 1987).									
Mercer	Freshwater Mussels	<i>Fusconaia subrotunda subrotunda</i>	Longsolid	S /	G3T3 / S3	0	0	0	1	0
	GRAVEL BARS AND DEEP POOLS IN LARGE RIVERS AND LARGE TO MEDIUM-SIZED STREAMS (AHLSTEDT 1984, GOODRICH AND VAN DER SCHALIE 1944, NEEL AND ALLEN 1964, PARMALEE 1967).									
Mercer	Freshwater Mussels	<i>Obovaria retusa</i>	Ring Pink	E / LE	G1 / S1	0	0	0	1	0
	LARGE RIVER SPECIES THAT INHABITS GRAVEL AND SAND BARS (BOGAN AND PARMALEE 1983, GOODRICH AND VAN DER SCHALIE 1944, NEEL AND ALLEN 1964, STANSBERRY 1976).									
Mercer	Freshwater Mussels	<i>Pleurobema clava</i>	Clubshell	E / LE	G2 / S1	0	0	0	1	0
	This species is an inhabitant of small streams and rivers (Goodrich and Van Der Schalie 1944; Ortmann 1919,1925), although in Kentucky it is known from moderately large rivers. Often deeply buried in the substrate and consequently difficult to find (Watters 1987).									
Mercer	Freshwater Mussels	<i>Pleurobema plenum</i>	Rough Pigtoe	E / LE	G1 / S1	0	0	0	1	0
	MEDIUM TO LARGE RIVERS IN SAND, GRAVEL, AND COBBLE SUBSTRATES (AHLSTEDT 1984, BOGAN AND PARMALEE 1983, CLARKE 1981, NEEL AND ALLEN 1964).									
Mercer	Freshwater Mussels	<i>Pleurobema rubrum</i>	Pyramid Pigtoe	E / SOMC	G2 / S1	0	0	0	1	0
	INHABITS MEDIUM TO LARGE RIVERS AND USUALLY OCCURS IN SAND OR GRAVEL BOTTOMS IN DEEP WATERS (AHLSTEDT 1984, MURRAY AND LEONARD 1962, PARMALEE ET AT. 1982).									
Mercer	Insects	<i>Callophrys irus</i>	Frosted Elfin	T /	G3 / S1	0	1	0	0	0
	EDGES AND FIELDS NEAR WOODS AND SCRUBS. FEEDS ON WILD INDIGO AND LUPINE, OCCASIONALLY BLUE FALSE INDIGO AND RATTLEBOX (OPLER AND MALIKUL 1992).									
Mercer	Insects	<i>Pseudanophthalmus puteanus</i>	Old Well Cave Beetle	T / SOMC	G1G2 / S2	0	0	1	0	0

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						E	H	F	X	U
Mercer	Amphibians	<i>Cryptobranchus alleganiensis alleganiensis</i>	Eastern Hellbender	S / SOMC	G3G4T3T4 / S3	0	1	0	0	0
	Habitat CONFINED TO RUNNING WATERS OF FAIRLY LARGE STREAMS AND RIVERS.									
	Breeding Birds	<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>	Lark Sparrow	T /	G5 / S2S3B	1	0	0	0	0
	Open situations with scattered bushes and trees, prairie, forest edge, cultivated areas, orchards, fields with bushy borders, and savanna (B83COM01NA).									
	Breeding Birds	<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>	Bewick's Wren	S / SOMC	G5 / S3B	2	0	0	0	0
Mercer	BRUSHY AREAS, THICKETS AND SCRUB IN OPEN COUNTRY, OPEN AND RIPARIAN WOODLAND, AND CHAPARRAL, MORE COMMONLY IN ARID RE- GIONS BUT LOCALLY ALSO IN HUMID AREAS (SUBTROPICAL AND TEM- PERATE ZONES) (B83COM01NA). FOUND IN COUNTRY TOWNS AND FARMS									
	Mammals	<i>Myotis leibii</i>	Eastern Small-footed Myotis	T / SOMC	G3 / S2	0	1	0	0	0
	Lieb's bats use a variety of habitats. They occur in caves, mines, protected sites along cliffines, abandoned buildings, and are occasionally found roosting under rocks on the ground or on the floors of caves. Summer habitat is currently unknown, but may be similar sites.									
Mercer	Communities	<i>Bluegrass savanna-woodland</i>		/	GNR / S1	1	0	0	0	0